

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 219171

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 9137 ACTION SECSTATE 15 SEP 75

QUOTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 9137

NODIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN SEIZURE OF EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN MADRID

1. SINCE RECEIPT OF NEWS LATE THIS MORNING OF PALESTINIAN SEIZURE OF EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN MADRID, NFA HAS UNDERSTANDABLY BEEN GREATLY EXERCISED. IN ADDITION TO BLATANT ANTI-SADAT SYMBOLISM OF THIS ACT, AMBASSADOR ABDUL GHAFAR IS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF FAHMY AND RELATED BY MARRIAGE TO SADAT. ABDUL GHAFAR SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED IN MADRID ONLY A WEEK AGO.

2. WE HAVE NOT HEARD WHAT EGYPTIAN RESPONSE WILL BE TO PALESTINIAN DEMANDS, BUT ARE CONVINCED THEY
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WILL BE REJECTED. THIS WILL LEAVE OPEN QUESTION

OF WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IN DRAMA NOW UNDERWAY IN
MADRID. AS REPORTED CAIRO 8851, EGYPTIANS HAD
EARLIER HAD REPORTS THAT PALESTINIAN ATTACK (S) ON EGYPTIAN AND OR
AMERICAN EMBASSIES SOMEWHERE BEING CONTEMPLATED. AT THE TIME
GOE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PALESTINIANS
WOULD DEMAND THE RELEASE OF THE KHARTOUM FIVE,
WHO ARE STILL HELD HERE.

3. IF AN AMERICAN EMBASSY WAS SEIZED AND SUCH A
DEMAND MADE, GOE THOUGHT WAS TO PUT THE QUESTION TO
US ON WHETHER TO RELEASE THE KHARTOUM FIVE AND TO
BE GUIDED BY OUR VIEWS. IF ANY EGYPTIAN EMBASSY
WAS SEIZED, FAHMY STATED GRIMLY, "WE HAVE PALESTINIANS
HERE, INCLUDING THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AND HAVE
WAYS TO MAKE ANY TERRORISTS THINK TWICE". GOE
WILL HAVE LITTLE COMPUNCTION TO USING THE PALESTINIANS
RESIDENT HERE AS LEVERAGE. WHETHER IT WILL WORK
REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
EILTS

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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